

APPROVED: Meeting No. 22-94

ATTEST: *Paula O. Jewell*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND  
Meeting No. 16-94

May 9, 1994

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in General Session in the Council Chamber, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on May 9, 1994, at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor James F. Coyle

Councilmember Robert E. Dorsey

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember Nina A. Weisbroth  
(arrived 7:38 p.m.)

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, City Clerk Paula Jewell and City Attorney Paul Glasgow.

Re: City Manager's Report

1. On May 14th, the City will sponsor the third annual celebration of Family Day at the Senior Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The free event is for families to come out and enjoy exhibits, foods, health screening, and obtain information on community services. The Mayor and Council will welcome families at 11 a.m.

2. Mr. Romer noted that staff had completed a significant accomplishment and achieved a major long-term goal of the City's and the Mayor and Council's--the development of a comprehensive Policies and Procedures Personnel Manual. He expressed appreciation to the

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Personnel Department and other staff involved and said that a series of training for the City's supervisory personnel had begun.

3. A short video production spot regarding the City's upcoming Hometown Holidays was being aired throughout the month of May on Rockville Cable 53 as well as other cable channels in the community. Cable TV Montgomery is donating the air time as part of their support for the festivities, and advertisements have been running in the Rockville Gazette as well as on WGMG Radio and MIX 107 Radio.

Mayor Coyle noted that the City just received the official lapel pin which recognizes the Police Department's accreditation status.

Re: Proclamation declaring May 8-14, 1994 as National Historic Preservation Week in Rockville.

Councilmember Weisbroth read the Proclamation. Upon motion of Councilmember Weisbroth, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the week of May 8-14, 1994 was declared National Historic Preservation Week. She noted that the President of Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd. accepted the Proclamation and thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to present the 15th Annual Awards for Historic Preservation. She recognized a number of Peerless committee members in the audience.

Re: Presentation of Peerless Rockville's 15th Annual Awards for Historic Preservation.

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Committee Chair, Stacy Wood, presented an award to Dr. June Whaun for controlled naturalization of the landscape, a preservation and conservation project in New Mark Commons. Committee member, Judy Hruz then presented an award to Mr. and Mrs. Barry Kemelhor for landscaping a compatible addition and an oriental backyard garden at 502 Mannakee Street.

Re: Proclamation declaring May 30, 1994, Memorial Day, as Rockville Poppy Day.

Councilmember Marrinan read the Proclamation. Upon motion of Councilmember Marrinan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, May 30, 1994, Memorial Day, was declared as Rockville Poppy Day. Helen Wooditch, President of the Henderson Smith Edmonds Unit No. 86, American Legion Auxiliary accepted the Proclamation and introduced the 1994 Poppy Girl, Mary Ann Bonanno, her mother and other guests. She explained that the proceeds from the sale of the poppies were used for veteran affairs and rehabilitation.

Re: Proclamation declaring the month of May 1994 as Alcohol and Other Drug Use Prevention Month.

Jordan Hirsh, Richard Montgomery High School student reported on the programs and activities being held during the month to promote drug awareness and prevention. Mayor Coyle acknowledged the youngsters in the audience who were part of the Code Blue program. Councilmember Krasnow read the Proclamation. Upon motion of Councilmember

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Krasnow, duly seconded and unanimously passed, May 1994 was declared Alcohol and Other Drug Use Prevention Month. The Proclamation was accepted by Jordan Hirsh.

The Mayor and Council also recognized the management and staff of Studebaker's Restaurant who have supported community programs that promote alcohol and drug-free activities for youth. Studebaker's also sponsors the Under 21 Club; a series of alcohol-free dances for youths under 21 in the community. The restaurant has also conducted a fundraiser for the Code Blue Program. The Certificate was accepted by Phil Repass, Manager of Studebaker's.

The Certificate acknowledging the 10th Anniversary of the United Black Cultural Center

Due to a family illness, Barbara Hill-Talley, Founder and President of the United Black Cultural Center, was unable to receive the Certificate in person; Mayor Coyle read the Certificate and asked that the City Clerk forward it to Ms. Hill-Talley.

Re: Resolution

1. Mansfield Kasman, 704 Carter Road spoke on behalf of Charles Villavicencio who had spent three years on Sabbatical at Georgetown University to work on a textbook to be used in anticipation of the re-elections in South Africa. Reverend Kaseman shared a copy of the book, "The Theology of Reconstruction" and said it would be used by teachers in treating everyone as an equal and respecting basic human rights. Mr. Kaseman said that he had recently spoken with Mr. Villavicencio who asked that Reverend Kaseman thank the Mayor and

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Council and churches in Rockville who took sanctions over 15 years ago to ensure that City investments would not be supporting the oppressive South Africa government. Mr. Kaseman said that we all could be grateful for the change in events in South Africa and he expressed his own appreciation to the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Coyle commented that it was significant and exciting to note that Nelson Mandela who was a prisoner for so many years, was being elected and sworn in as South Africa's president. He said he hoped that the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors would be lending a hand to help South Africa deal with democracy and government service issues.

Re: Appointments

Upon motion of Councilmember Krasnow, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Elizabeth Steel was appointed to the Board of Supervisors of Elections.

Upon motion of Councilmember Dorsey, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Paul Stein was appointed to serve on the Economic Development Council.

Upon motion of Councilmember Marrinan, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Helen Roberto was appointed, and Arthur Sellers and Mack Smith were reappointed to serve on the Rockville Seniors, Inc. Board of Directors.

Upon motion of Councilmember Krasnow, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Richard Rothenberg was appointed to serve on the Rockville Scholarship Foundation.

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## Re. Consent Agenda

Councilmember Dorsey requested removal of Consent Agenda Item B. Upon motion of Councilmember Krasnow, duly seconded and unanimously passed, Consent Agenda Item A was approved.

- (A) Authorization to purchase bituminous concrete through the Metropolitan Area Government Rider Clause under Montgomery County Contract #15805 from the lowest bidders Genstar and A. H. Smith. The total cost will not exceed \$23,768.

This is a budget requirement of the City for asphalt maintenance.

## Re. Consent Agenda Item (B)

Receipt of financial reports summarizing the results of City operations for the period from July 1, 1993, through March 31, 1994.

Councilmember Dorsey requested removal of this item to inquire about the 52.3% in fines and forfeitures realized to date. He commented that it appeared as if people were getting away with paying fines and forfeitures and he asked for an explanation of the report. Finance Director, Kevin Deckard explained that the collection rate was as good as it had ever been, and the number of violations was actually down due to the closing of the Town Center which he said was often an area where parking violations occurred. Mr. Deckard explained that the decrease was in the parking ticket area and that revenues were down because the pattern of infractions had decreased.

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Councilmember Marrinan pointed out that real property assessments continued to decline in the City and he said while this was disappointing, he hoped to see those assessments turn around. Upon motion of Councilmember Dorsey, duly seconded and unanimously passed, the financial reports were received.

Re: FYI/Correspondence

1. Mayor Coyle, noting an item which appeared in the April 28, 1994 FYI Report, extended his congratulations to Councilmember Krasnow who was elected as Vice Chair of the Council of Governments' Environmental Policy Committee.

2. Mayor Coyle noted the Habitat for Humanities project was upcoming, and he suggested that members of the Council may want to visit the property site before the matter was scheduled to be voted on at the May 23, 1994 General Session.

Re: Correspondence

1. Councilmember Krasnow noted receipt of the letter from Steve Peck on the problems of speeding on Scott Drive. She asked if the City had ever looked into the possibility of installing sidewalks along Scott Drive. Mr. Romer responded that while there was a lot of discussion on the traffic situation as well as a neighborhood advisory group, it was unclear whether the issue of sidewalks was ever looked at as a viable alternative and he said that staff would look into the matter.

Re: New Business

1. Councilmember Marrinan noted an article in the employee newsletter, "City

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Signals", regarding the City's implementation of a policy prohibiting smoking in any City-owned or operated facility and vehicle, effective May 1, 1994. He recommended the City Manager be moving on this public health issue.

2. Councilmember Krasnow said that she had heard there had been a change in the way prisoners were being processed at the Seven Locks Detention Center. Mr. Romer noted that he and Police Chief Treschuk were informed that there was a proposal for a new routine in terms of how prisoners were booked. He said that he had informed the County that the Mayor and Council and community would want details on what the impact would be on the operations at the Detention Center, and he said that he made it clear to the County that there were fundamental questions that needed to be addressed before any change was implemented.

3. Councilmember Dorsey commented that he recently obtained a user identification number on the "Information Highway." Mr. Dorsey said that he learned about a group called CAPACROSS who, he said, was eager to work with the City on gaining access to the "Information Highway," and he would forward the request to the City Manager.

4. Councilmember Weisbroth noted a memo from staff regarding the issue of speeding on Beall Avenue. She said that the Police Department investigated the complaints and found that there was not a speeding problem. As noted in the memo from staff, Ms. Weisbroth said the perception of speeding may be enhanced because of the way cars were parked in the 500 block of Beall and because the shoulders were poorly developed and non-existent in some



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areas. Ms. Weisbroth also said residents had been parking their vehicles in front of their properties perpendicular to the road which created choke points on the street. Ms. Weisbroth suggested that staff be directed to proceed with looking at what can be done to enhance the flow of traffic on Beall Avenue. Without objection, the Mayor and Council agreed that staff should proceed as directed.

5. Mayor Coyle noted a letter received from Shizihuang, China asking that the City to consider a sister city relationship with Shizihuang. He said that the idea would be to create a formal business relationship between the two cities, with a possibility for cultural and social aspects. Mayor Coyle will distribute copies of the letter to members of the Council and he suggested that the Council discuss the issue.

Councilmember Marrinan commented that a business relationship with Shizihuang did not seem to fall into the category of a traditional sister city relationship. He suggested that Rockville's Chamber of Commerce be involved in any plans for a business relationship; the Mayor and Council could help define such a relationship. Mr. Marrinan also noted that the Mayor and Council had talked about taking a different view of sister city relations by looking at possible relationships with cities in Asia, South America or Africa.

6. Mayor Coyle noted that during his trip to China, he visited a Maryland State Trade Office located in Taiwan which was attempting to find businesses willing to import into Taiwan. Mayor Coyle said he was disappointed to learn that the Taiwan Trade Office did not even know the location of the City of Rockville. The Mayor did obtain information from the

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Taiwan Office, which he will pass on to the Chairman.

7. Mayor Doyle mentioned that the Council had received the revised mission statement for the Human Needs and Services Advisory Task Force and he asked that the members of the Council submit their comments to Mr. Romer prior to the next Steering Committee meeting on May 11, 1994.

Re: Next Meeting/Next Drop In

The Mayor and Council will hold a second public hearing on the FY95 Budget on Tuesday, May 10, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Marrinan will be available for Drop-In on Saturday, May 21, 1994, from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m., to reconvene in Public Hearing on May 10, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. and in General Session on May 23, 1994.